



The Town Crier



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BRIDGE WORK UPDATE



HEADSTONE CLEANING



WORKING TOGETHER



NATIONAL NIGHT OUT



Hudson's Boston Post CANE

The year was 1909. Edwin Atkins Grozier, owner and publisher of The Boston Post, launched his most famous and longest lasting advertising campaign to increase readership of his paper: The Boston Post Cane.

A letter was sent to the chairmen of the of selectmen in many New England towns. With this letter Mr. Grozier asked them to become trustees of a fine ebony cane with a top of 24-caret sheet gold. He stipulated the cane was to be given to the oldest citizen of the town. Upon the death of that citizen the cane was to be returned to the town and quickly transmitted to the next oldest citizen. The canes were separately expressed to each town.

Some time prior to August 1909 Mr. Grozier had arranged for the manufacture of some 700 canes by J. F. Fradley & Co. of New York,

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widely recognized for their fine canes. The cane itself was crafted from ebony grown in the Congo of Africa then brought here, cut into the desired length, and seasoned for 6 months. Good specimens were then turned on a lathe to the desired size and allowed to season again. They were then given a coat of shellac, rubbed with a pumice, and coated with French Varnish. Each town received an identical cane except for the name of the town embossed on the head of the cane. The cane for Hudson read: "The Boston Post to the Oldest Citizen of Hudson " in the center. Around the top edge was "New Hampshire" and on the bottom "To be Transmitted" This cane was not just an ornament; it was designed for daily use by the holder.

Within a few weeks Mr. Grozier made it clear who was eligible for the cane. The intention from the beginning was for the cane to be presented to the oldest citizen, meaning the oldest registered voter in the town. In 1909 women could not vote so the cane was presented to the oldest male voter in town. Even after women could register to vote most towns continued the tradition of presenting to the oldest male voter. As far as Hudson is concerned the award of the cane followed the original intent until 1999 when the Historical Society assumed the responsibility of presenting the cane.

Mr. Grozier remained as owner of the newspaper until he passed suddenly in 1924 at which time his son Richard, also a newspaper man, took on the responsibility until 1946 when he also passed suddenly. The paper was then sold, circulation declined, and publication ended in 1956. What started as a campaign to increase circulation of the newspaper has turned into a century-long tradition, outlasting the newspaper itself!

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Hudson's Selectmen in 1909 were James P. Howe, P. J. Connell, and George F. Blood. Soon after receiving the cane the selectmen presented it to Benjamin A. Merrill, Hudson's first holder. Mr. Merrill passed in late October 1909; the cane was then presented to Hiram Cummings who held the cane until he passed January 7, 1910.


Some towns kept a record of the recipients of their cane. I have not found nor have I heard of any such early records being kept for Hudson. So, to create such a list, I did some research. The remainder of this article shares my results.

Following Hiram Cummings (d:1910) research shown the honor was passed to Daniel Greeley (d:May 1916), Kimball Webster (d:June 1916), and Robert A. Andrews (d:1920). The next recipient I found was Clifton Buttrick who passed in May 1935 at the age of 89. Logic tells we there is an unknown recipient between Robert A. Andrews and Clifton Buttrick. Following Mr. Buttrick we have Willis P. Cummings (d:1939), Edwin Gowing (d:1940), David Monroe (d:1941), Charles L. Spaulding (d:1942), Charles Leslie (d:1948), Arthur S. Andrews (d:1949), Aldon Cummings (d:July 1950), Irven Smith (d:Aug 1950) and Charles Edward Cummings (d:1953). After the death of the younger Cummings brother in 1953 I found no further record of a presentation of the cane by the board of selectmen.

Hudson's Boston Post Cane was donated to the Historical Society by the Town of Hudson in 1971. It has been on display at the Hills House since that time; being used only occasionally for special presentations.



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In 1999 the Society re-activated the tradition of the Boston Post Cane with updated eligibility rules. Both ladies and gentlemen are candidates with the requirement they be a resident of Hudson for the previous 20 years. The recipient is honored with a proclamation from the selectmen, a pin/tie clasp replica of the cane and his/her name engraved on a plaque. This presentation is made at the convenience of the recipient's family.

Since 1999 we have had 10 recipients. James Glispen was honored in 1999 at the age of 100. Lillian Leor was Hudson's first lady to receive the honor in 2005. Following Mrs. Leor the recipients are: Ella Connell, Thelma Lemire, Ida Hill, Paul Wheeler, Mildred Emanuelson, Laura B. Landry, Clara Charest, and lastly Doris Widebeck who passed earlier this year.

On July 7, 2024 at 1:00PM at the Hills House the Boston Post Cane award will be presented once again to our oldest citizen: Mrs. Robert (Martha) Smith. Martha is a Hudson native born here November 30, 1924!

Before leaving the story of honoring our oldest residents I share a couple of events which occurred during the 1970's. The first event was Founders Day in 1973; a week-long celebration of the 300th anniversary of the founding of Dunstable. For this event Hudson sponsored a parade which proceeded from School Street down Lowell Road to Jacques Field. Being the oldest native of Hudson Ralph Steele (d:1999) was selected as the Grand Marshall.

The second event was the Bicentennial in 1976; again, celebrated with a parade from School Street to the site of Memorial School. The grand marshal for this event was 96-year-old William D. Tandy. Mr. Tandy(d:1978) had previously been recognized by the Hudson Lion's Club as early as 1974 as the oldest man in Hudson. ♦

If any readers have additional information or insights into missing Boston Post Cane recipients, please contact Ruth via email at HudsonHistorical@live.com. The photos of the cane were taken by Sue Misek and is part of our collection at the Hills House. Written by Ruth Parker.





*** UPDATE ***

Veteran's Memorial Bridge Work

- Work is moving along great and is on time as scheduled!
- Length of time for repair to Veteran's Memorial Bridge only, approximately 9-12 months.
- A one lane closure at the bridge is still required.

TOWN OF HUDSON CEMETERY TRUSTEES ANNOUNCE TRAINING FOR HEADSTONE CLEANING



Many people ask the Town of Hudson Cemetery Trustees how they can help clean headstones so that inscriptions can be read. Mel Gannon, one of our Cemetery Trustees and a Wreaths Across America Location Leader, will be holding 2 training sessions on **August 3 and 4 at 10:30 AM in Sunnyside Cemetery on Central Street.**

She will demonstrate proper cleaning methods and provide approved cleaning solutions. Improper cleaning methods or solutions can be harmful to the headstones, so the Trustees request that volunteers receive training before attempting to clean headstones. The Cemetery Trustees appreciate properly trained volunteers cleaning the many very old headstones in our cemeteries. There is no charge and no need to register.

If you are interested, please attend.

The Town Cemeteries are: Ford, Senter, Old Center, Blodgett, Poor Farm, and Sunnyside.



Hudson Hazard Mitigation Plan Update 2024

The Town of Hudson, in conjunction with the Nashua Regional Planning Commission, is in the process of updating its Hazard Mitigation Plan. All residents, members of the business community, and other interested individuals were strongly encouraged to participate in the update process and via Zoom, held four virtual meetings last month.

Hudson's Steering Committee were also participants. Members include:

- Scott Tice — Fire Department Chief and Emergency Management Director
- Tad Dionne—Police Department Chief
- Elvis Dhima—Town Engineer
- Dave Hebert—Fire Marshal (Inspectional Services)
- Ben Gradert—Associate Planner
- Chris Sullivan—Zoning Administrator/Code Enforcement Officer
- Jason Twardosky—Public Works Director
- James Paquette—Fire Department Deputy Chief

The Hudson Hazard Mitigation Plan Update examined changes in development and mitigation priorities that have occurred since the 2018 Plan. It will also address natural hazards in the Town, previous occurrences of these hazards, the probability of future hazard events, and the vulnerability of Hudson's critical facilities to these hazards. The Plan concluded by identifying and prioritizing mitigation actions to reduce Hudson's vulnerability to natural hazards. The webpage will be updated throughout the planning process and includes meeting times, locations, agendas, and updated documents.

From this meeting, the Nashua Regional Planning Commission is processing the information collected by the Hazard Mitigation Plan meetings and will put together a plan, which in turn, will be presented to FEMA for approval. Please check back with the [Nashua Regional Planning Commission](https://www.nashuarpc.com/) for results.



2024 National Night Out

POLICE • COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS

Hudson Police Department & Rodgers Memorial Library are joining forces once again in hosting a **COMMUNITY BLOCK PARTY**. This is a party you do not want to miss!

Community members are invited to come and enjoy “Touch a Truck”, a Dunk Tank, Rock Wall Climbing, K9 Demonstration, and water balloon fights with Hudson Police Officers vs kids. These are just a few to name.

There will be plenty of **FREE ACTIVITIES** and community safety vendor booths for every age to enjoy! Food Vendors will be present however they are at your cost. And don't forget to stop the Hudson Sustainability Committee booth and say hello!

AUGUST 6th, 2024 ~ 4:30-8:00pm

At the location of Rogers Memorial Library ♦ 194 Derry Rd.



George H. & Ella M. Rodgers Memorial Library



Pickle Cheeseburger Bites

Ingredients

- 4-6 Servings
- 1 lb. ground beef
- 1/2 tsp. salt
- 2 tbsp. ketchup
- 2 tbsp. mayonnaise
- 1 tbsp. olive oil
- 4 sliced American cheese
- 28 dill pickle chips
- 14 slices plum tomatoes
- 14 small lettuce leaves

Instructions

- Shape the ground beef into 1½-inch patties (about 14) and sprinkle with the salt.
- In a small bowl, combine the ketchup and mayonnaise.
- Heat the olive oil in a large cast-iron skillet over medium heat. Working in batches, cook the patties 2 minutes per side, topping each with a small slice of American cheese after flipping.
- Thread the patties onto skewers with the dill pickle chips, sliced plum tomato and lettuce. Serve with the ketchup-mayonnaise mixture.

CAN YOU HELP?

Board/Committee	Member	Alternate
Benson Park Committee	2	1
Cable Utility Committee	4	0
Conservation Commission	0	1
Municipal Utility Committee	1	1
Recreation Committee	4	0
Supervisors of the Checklist	2	0
Sustainability Committee	2	1
Zoning Board of Adjustment	1	4

To find out more, simply click on the name of the Board or Committee of interest. For an application, click [here](#).

WE ARE HIRING

JOIN OUR TEAM

Thank you for your interest in joining the Town of Hudson team. Paper applications are available at the Town Administration Office or online. You can email, snail mail, or apply in person. Applications are accepted only in response to listed vacancies. Again, we appreciate your interest with the Town of Hudson.

- FIREFIGHTER-EMT/AEMT/MEDIC
- PUBLIC WORKS—MECHANIC
- TRUCK DRIVER/LABORER

MEETING CALENDAR

~ July ~

Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
1 <u>Planning Board- Minor Site Plan Review</u> 5:00pm		3 CANCELLED <u>Budget Cmte.</u> 7:00pm <u>Hwy. Safety Cmte.</u> 8:30am	TOWN HALL CLOSED Friday, July 4 Independence Day	
8 <u>Cable Utility Cmte.</u> 7:00pm <u>Conservation Comm.</u> 7:00pm	9 <u>Board of Selectmen</u> 7:00pm	10 <u>Library Trustees</u> 6:00pm <u>Planning Board</u> 7:00pm	11 <u>Zoning Board</u> 7:00pm	
	16 <u>Municipal Utility Cmte.</u> 7:00pm		18 <u>Benson Park Cmte.</u> 7:00pm	
22 <u>Sustainability Cmte.</u> 7:00pm	23 <u>Board of Selectmen</u> 7:00pm	24 <u>Planning Board</u> 7:00pm		
25 <u>Planning Board- Minor Site Plan Review</u> 7:00pm				

SUBSCRIBE

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The Town Crier!**

**Have Something to Say?
Send a Comment!**

Submit



NEWS & Announcements

Contact Us:

- Administration 886-6024
- Assessor 886-6009
- Board of Selectmen 886-1224
- Fire Department 886-6021
- Finance Department 886-6000
- Human Resources 595-6518
- Information Technology 886-6000
- Inspectional Services 886-6005
- Land Use 886-6008
 - ◇ Engineering
 - ◇ Planning
 - ◇ Zoning
- Police Department 886-6011
- Public Works 886-6018
- Recreation Department 880-1600
- Rodgers Memorial Library 886-6030
- Sewer Utility 886-6029
- Town Clerk 886-6003
 - ◇ Car/Boat Registrations
 - ◇ Taxes
 - ◇ Voter Registration
 - ◇ Vital Records

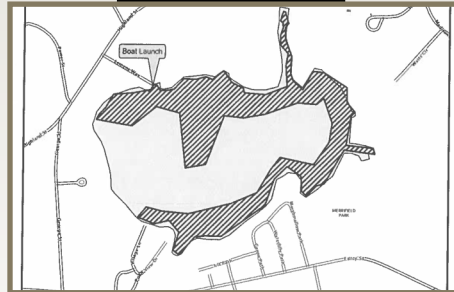
Board of Selectmen:

- Bob Guessferd**
- David Morin**
- Dillon Dumont**
- Kara Roy**
- Heidi Jakoby**



KEEP UP ON HTV SUMMER HAPPENINGS!

Browse all three channels, Public, Education and Government for all news happening in Hudson!



OTTERNIC POND TREATMENT

Treatment for control of non-native fanwort has been issued for Otternic Pond on or about July 11, 2024.



SUPERVISORS OF THE CHECKLIST INTERIM VACANCY

This Supervisors of the Checklist currently have two open positions to fill immediately, one is on an interim basis. You must be a Hudson resident.



HEAT ADVISORY INFORMATION

Please note: During heat advisories, there are precautionary and preparedness actions you can take to keep cool...



hudsonnh.gov

For ALL current News & Announcements